

# Real Estate is a good investment

Here is an article taken from the Ontario Real Estate Association's newsletter.

"If you have potential buyers still hesitant to get into the market, they should consider the following: as well as providing them with the house of their dreams, real estate has proven to be a solid investment over the last 25 years. According to RE/MAX Ontario-Atlantic's "25 Years of Real Estate" report, residential housing values in virtually all major Canadian centres have posted significant gains since 1981."

Six of the 17 housing markets featured in the study of prices from 1981 to 2005 are in Ontario. Barrie is at the top of the list posting an exceptional 372 per cent increase in average price (\$51,665 to \$244,000) over the 25-year period. Other Ontario communities where price appreciation topped 200 per cent include: St. Catharines, 329 per cent; Hamilton-Burlington, 325 per cent; Ottawa, 297 per cent; Greater Toronto Area, 290 per cent and London, 228 per cent.

The report attributes these price gains to a strong economy, job security, consumer confidence and historically low interest rates. "From a demographic standpoint, both baby boomers and generation X continue to express their belief in homeownership by amassing property. Immigration and population growth have also contributed to the health of the residential marketplace."

Another report by Scotia Economics says "the finances of Canadian households are in good shape and household wealth has reached unprecedented highs, thanks to years of solid, uninterrupted

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Lynn and John Drewry

economic growth accompanied by falling unemployment and rising home and stock prices." And, in its Long Term Outlook for Canadian House Prices report, TD Economics predicts house prices will rise an average of 4 per cent annually over the next 25 years."

Published reports indicate that most of the growth will be fueled by immigration. We have seen recent announcements by the Government of Ontario that Halton Hills will experience immense growth during the next 20 years or so. We have already seen this in Milton which is now the fastest growing city/town? in Canada.

It is beginning to look inevitable that Halton Hills will get "the pipe" as well.

We encourage you to send us your questions and ideas for future articles at [john@lyninandjohn.ca](mailto:john@lyninandjohn.ca) or 905 873-0440.

*Lynn and John are with Re/Max Realty Specialists Inc., Brokerage, one of the largest Re/Max franchises in Canada with 5 offices and over 480 sales representatives. Lynn and John work and live in Georgetown and have enjoyed a successful business in real estate during the last 12 years. John is a Broker and Chartered Accountant (FCA).*

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